

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 04176 161023Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SAM-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 SSC-01

/094 W

----- 079799

R 160910Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 361

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

473 29/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6823

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4176

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: REHABILATEE NAMED BOSS OF KWANGTUNG

SUMMARY. CHAO TZU-YANG, A VETERAN CADRE WHO SUFFERED AT THE HANDS
OF EXTREMISTS DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, HAS EMERGED AS KAWANGTU

V PROVINCE'S NEW BOSS. CHAO'S APPOINTMENT INDICATES
THAT MILITARY REGIME COMMANDERS SHUFFLED LAST DECEMBER ARE TO
BE EXCLUDED FROM THE TOP POSTS IN PROVINCIAL POLITICS. MADAME
MAO APPARENTLY CHIDED CHAO AND OTHER KWANGTUNG LEADERS EARLIER
THIS YEAR. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 04176 161023Z

1. NCNA HAS IDENTIFIED CHAO TZU-YANG AS THE NEW FIRST SECRETARY IN KWANGTUNG. CHAO, A VETERAN PARTY CADRE NOW REINSTATED IN THE POSITION HE HELD BEFORE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, IS A MODERATE WHO WAS DENOUNCED VIGOROUSLY AND BROUGHT DOWN EARLY IN THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. HIS RETURN TO FULL POWER FITS THE POST-1971 PATTERN OF RETURNING REHABILITATED PROVINCIAL CADRE TO THEIR FORMER PARTY POSTS. DURING THIS PERIOD, HOWEVER, CHAO IS ONLY THE SECTND EX-PROVINCIAL BOSS TO MAKE IT ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE TOP, AND THE FIRST TO HEAD THE SAME PROVINCE HE PREVIOUSLY RULED. ATTACKED FOR HIS INDIRECT CONNECTIONS TO REHABILITATED VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, CHAO WAS PROBABLY HELPED BACK BY THE GPTI FORCES THAT AIDED TENG. HE ALSO BENEFITED FROM THE RECENT DEATH OF CHEN YU, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN KWANGTUNG'S TOP CIVILIAN CANDIDATE FOR FIRST SECRETARY.

2. CHAO'S APPOINTMENT INDICATES THAT THE EIGHT ARMY COMMANDERS SHUFFLED LAST DECEMBER ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM TOP POSTS IN PROVINCIAL POLITICS. OF THE EIGHT, POLITBURO MEMBER HSU SHIH-YU (ALONG WITH PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN LI TEH-SHENG, NOW UNDER ATTACK) SEEMED THE MOST LIKELY TO BECOME FIRST SECRETARY IN HIS NEW BASE. APPOINTING CHAO KWANGTUNG CCP CHIEF INSTEAD OF HSU, WHO IS NOW BASED IN KWANGTUNG, ALMOST DICTATES THAT THE OTHER, LESS PROMINENT COMMANDERS WILL ALSO BE KEPT FROM FILLING VACATED FIRST SECRETARY SLOTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE NEW BAILIWICKS.

3. MEANWHILE IN SZECHWAN, CHINA'S LARGEST PROVINCE, THERE IS A FURTHER INDICATION THAT TRANSFERRED COMMANDERS ARE NOT THE ONLY ARMYMEN WHO MAY BE RETIRED FROM POLITICS. SZECHWAN FIRST SECRETARY LIU HSING-YUAN, THE PLA'S TOP POWERHOLDER THERE, MISEZD AN IMPORTANT TURNOUT TO GREET A GROUP OF VISITING CAMBODIAN "COMRADES." THE GROUP, ACCOMPANIED BY THE PLA'S DE FACTO AND PAISGO CHAIRMAIRMAN YEH CHIEN-YING, SEEMED SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO DRAW OUT LIU, WHO LAST APPEARED PUBLICLY JANUARY 1. (LIU REMAINED POLITICALLY ALIVE AT LEAST THROUGH MARCH 26, WHEN HE SENT A WREATH TO CHEN YU'S FUNERAL.) TOP SZECHWAN OFFICIALS IN THE GREETING GROUP INCLUDED TENG HSING-JUO AND CHIANG HAI-YU, TWO REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVISTS LITTLE SEEN SINCE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION FIRE WAS TURNED DOWN IN 1969.

4. COMMENT. IF LEFTISTS AND MODERATES ARE COMPETING TO FILL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HONG K 04176 161023Z

VACANCIES OPENED BY THE PLA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM POLITICS, CHAO'S APPOINTMENT IN KWANGTUNG WOULD SEEMINGLY REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT GAIN FOR THE MODERATES. KWANGTUNG'S TOP CCP SLOT IS NOW CLOSED TO THE LEFT, EVEN THOUGH KWANGTUNG, LEADERS INCLUDING CHAO WERE

RECENTLY CHIDED BY MADAME MAO FOR NOT CORRECTLY HANDLING THE PROVINCE'S ANTI-LIN/CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN (USDLO 2009 20Z MARCH 74). IN SZECHWAN THE SITUATION IS LESS CLEAR, WITH LEFTISTS THERE

POSSIBLY MOVING CLOSER TO POWER.
CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, POLITICAL LEADERS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, SOCIAL CHANGE, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK04176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740087-0423
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740440/aaaabjyc.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REHABILITATEE NAMED BOSS OF KWANGTUNG SUMMARY. CHAO TZU-YANG, A VETERAN CADRE WHO SUFFERED AT THE HANDS
TAGS: PINT, CH, (CHAO TZU-YANG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005